

011104

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371**

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

09/856452INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/EP99/07076INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
23 Sept 1999PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
23 Nov. 1998

TITLE OF INVENTION Repair Material For Damaged Painted Surfaces

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Gerold Tebbe

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371 (f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.
4. ☒ The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☐ is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
- ☒ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
 - a. ☒ is attached hereto.
 - b. ☐ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
- ☒ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
 - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☒ have not been made and will not be made.
- ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
- ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).
- ☐ An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).

Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:

11. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A **FIRST** preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** preliminary amendment.
15. ☐ A substitute specification.
16. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
17. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.
18. ☒ A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
19. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
20. ☒ Other items or information: Return Postcard; Certificate of Express Mail

ION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)
09/856452

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER
011104

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- REGISTRATION NUMBER

May 22, 2001

In Re Apln. of: Gerold Tebbe

Ser. No.: to be assigned

Filed on: May 22, 2001

For: REPAIR MATERIAL FOR DAMAGED
PAINTED SURFACES

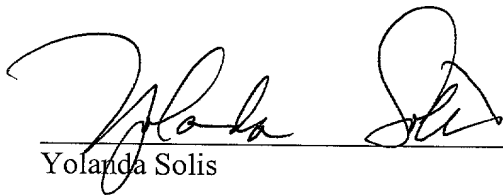
Docket No.: OST 011104

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Yolanda Solis

09/856452

JC18 Rec'd PCT/PTO 22 MAY 2001

**IN THE
UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Tebbe

CASE: 011104

Preliminary Amendment

SERIAL NO.:

FILED ON: May 22, 2001

FOR: Repair Material For Damaged
Painted Surfaces

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
FOR PATENTS
Washington DC 20231

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EXAMINER:

Dear Sir:

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FACTOR & PARTNERS, LLC
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(312) 226-1818
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Jody L. Factor
Jovan N. Jovanovic

34157
40039

IN THE CLAIMS AMEND

Claim 3, line 1	Delete "or 2".
Claim 6, line 1	Delete "or 5".
Claim 7, line 1	Delete "one of claims 1 to 6" and insert -- 1 -- .
Claim 8, line 1	Delete "one of claims 1 to 7" and insert -- 1 -- .
Claim 10, line 1	Delete "one of claims 1 to 9" and insert -- 1 -- .
Claim 13, line 1	Delete "one of claims 1 to 12" and insert -- 1 -- .

REMARKS

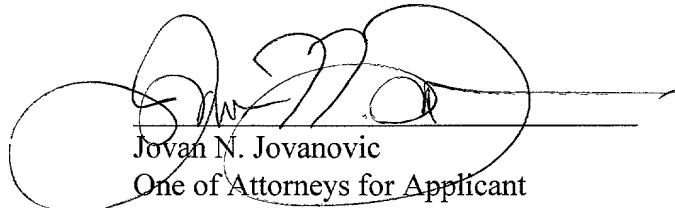
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Should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned, at (312) 226-1818,
is respectfully invited.

Respectfully submitted,

FACTOR & PARTNERS, LLC

Dated: May 22, 2001


Jovan N. Jovanovic
One of Attorneys for Applicant

REPAIR MATERIAL FOR DAMAGED PAINT SURFACES

The invention relates to a repair material for repairing a
5 layer of paint.

Minor paint damage is currently restored using repair kits
which comprise, for example, a glass fibre stylus for the
slight surface abrasion of the site to be repaired, and a
10 paint stylus (small reservoir for paint with an integrated
brush). Alternatively, use is made of spray cans.

The use of paint styluses has the disadvantage that a
smooth junction with the paint surrounding the site of the
15 repair is not obtained. Also, the repair area is often not
reflectingly smooth. The utilisation of spray cans has the
disadvantage that a veil of paint, which is likewise
undesirable for aesthetic reasons, is often produced at the
transitional region between the site of the repair and the
20 adjacent paint.

The intention is to indicate, by means of the present
invention, a material with the aid of which minor paint
damage can be repaired in a simple and high-quality manner.
25

This object is achieved, according to the invention, by
means of a repair material which is designed after the
fashion of a patch.

30 The repair patch is simply stuck on over the defective
paint at the site to be restored and is then optionally
heated up for hardening and/or for liquefying and
subsequently solidifying the paint.

35 Since, in the repair material according to the invention,
the paint material has not yet shrunk to form a brittle
layer of paint, it can be successfully adapted even to
convex surfaces.

Advantageous further developments of the invention are indicated in subclaims.

5 Layers of paint material, such as are indicated in claim 2, can be produced in a particularly simple manner by applying liquid synthetic-resin paint to a substrate and surface drying the paint.

10 If the surface dried layer of paint remains, until utilised in service, on a deformable substrate, as is indicated in claim 3, the repair material is distinguished by particularly satisfactory mechanical strength.

15 The further development of the invention according to claim 4 guarantees still greater deformability of the repair material, since a coherent layer of paint is not yet present in it at all. Nevertheless, the microcapsules guarantee homogeneous distribution of the paint material over the repair material, and such proximity of the
20 individual small volumes of paint that the paint material runs together, when released and optionally heated up, and forms a smooth reflecting surface.

What is achieved with the aid of the invention in
25 accordance with claim 5 is that, after that bonding of the paint material with the layer of paint to be repaired which takes place under the action of heat, only the paint material is left on the repair area.

30 If particles of powder paint are put into the microcapsules in accordance with claim 6, in the first place the said particles form, after being melted down and cooled again, a layer of paint which is just as capable of being subjected to mechanical loads as the original paint. Furthermore,
35 the paint bonds particularly well with the material lying underneath it.

A repair material such as is indicated in claim 7 needs no separate adhesive. It is also possible to simply lay the repair material on the repair area which has been heated up beforehand, where it is then fixed by the partial melting
5 of the microcapsules.

The further development of the invention in accordance with claim 8 is of advantage with a view to the cost-effective manufacture of smaller pieces of repair material starting
10 from large sheets or preferably webs of the said repair material.

What is achieved with the aid of the further development of the invention in accordance with claim 9 is that the user
15 has available, in a ready-prepared manner, pieces of repair material of different geometry and different size, that is to say, does not have to cut the repair material himself. Cutting of the repair material by the user might lead to irregularities at the edges.

20 The further development of the invention in accordance with claim 10 permits adaptation of the colour of the repair material to paint which has become darker.

25 In that connection, the advantage is achieved, with the aid of the further development of the invention in accordance with claim 11, that adaptation to the subsequent darkening can still be carried out by the user.

30 This can be effected in a particularly simple manner in accordance with claim 12, through the fact that the user picks out, from a plurality of grey layers, the one which matches best.

35 The grey layers may, for example, be grids with a different grid-point size, which are printed in a black colour onto a transparent layer. For those paints which become lighter

as a result of atmospheric influences, use might also be made, in a similar manner, of "negative grey layers" manufactured by printing a grid pattern of reflective material onto a transparent layer. Alternatively, use
 5 might also be made of a white grid pattern for lightening purposes.

The further development of the invention in accordance with claim 13 makes it possible to keep a supply of only a
 10 single kit of repair material, with the aid of which it is then possible to cover a manufacturer's entire range of colours (optionally for a certain model only). This facilitates stock-keeping, particularly at the final vendor's premises.

15 The invention will be explained in greater detail below with the aid of two exemplified embodiments and with reference to the drawings, in which:

20 figure 1: shows a section through a first repair material for layers of paint, in a direction perpendicular to the plane of the material;

figure 2: shows a view which is similar to that in
 25 figure 1 but in which a modified repair material is represented;

figure 3: shows a view which is similar to that in
 30 figure 1 and in which the repair material is additionally provided with a grey layer, in order to restore weathered paint; and

figure 4: shows a top view of pieces of repair
 35 material of different cut, which are contained in a kit in order to be able to carry out the restoration of painted regions of different shapes.

The repair material represented in figure 1 for a scratched or otherwise damaged layer of paint comprises a central base layer 10 which is manufactured from a flexible plastic material, for example a polypropylene film with a layer
5 thickness of about 20 to 50 μm .

A layer of paint 12 is applied to the upper side of the base layer, for example by the spraying-on of a solvent-based paint and the subsequent drying-off of the said layer
10 of paint. However, the paint is not hardened, with the result that it remains flexible and plastically deformable, in a manner similar to a prepreg.

The underside of the layer of paint 12 carries a layer of
15 adhesive 14 with the aid of which the repair material can be attached to that painted area of a motor vehicle, sheet-metal casing or the like, which is to be repaired. Before the material is used, the layer of adhesive 14 is masked by a protective layer 16 which can be pulled off.

20 The modified repair material according to figure 2 consists of a layer 18 which, in turn, consists of microcapsules 20 and a bonding agent 22 which holds the latter together. Contained inside the microcapsules 20 is a paint material
25 24 which, in this case, is shown as small droplets of paint but which may also be constituted by a small volume of powder-paint particles.

Islands of adhesive 26 are provided on the underside of the
30 layer 18 in a regularly distributed manner.

The islands of adhesive 26, the bonding agent 22 and the walls of the microcapsules 20 are, in each case, manufactured from a material which evaporates and/or
35 decomposes when acted upon by heat.

The way in which the repair material according to figure 2 is used, is that it is first applied to the area to be repaired and is smoothed down on the said repair area.

- 5 The islands of adhesive 26, the bonding agent 22 and the walls of the microcapsules 20 are then evaporated by supplying heat, and the contents of the various microcapsules 20 coalesce on the repair area to form a layer of paint. The said layer of paint can then be
10 hardened in the usual way by means of infrared radiation.

If a material which becomes sticky when heated up is chosen as the bonding agent 22 and/or as the material for the wall of the microcapsules 20, it is possible to dispense with
15 the islands of adhesive 26. In this case, the repair material is simply laid on the repair area which has been heated up beforehand, and is attached when partial melting of the bonding agent and/or of the microcapsules occurs. With a further increase in temperature, these materials are
20 then evaporated and the paint material comes into contact with the repair area. In the case of powder paint, further heating of the site of the repair leads to the melting-down of the powder-paint particles, which thus coalesce to form a coherent layer and are intimately bonded to the support.

- 25 The repair material shown in figure 3 is intended for restoring weathered paint. For this purpose, the repair material additionally comprises a grey layer 28 which accompanies a piece of repair material as a separate piece
30 of repair material. The repair kit comprises grey layers 28 having different grey values, so as to be able to restore paint which has been darkened to different degrees.

The grey layer 28 carries, on its underside, a transparent
35 layer of adhesive 30 which is masked by a protective layer 32 which is likewise transparent. In this way, the user can lay grey layers having different grey values over the

repair material on a trial basis, and decide which grey layer best reproduces the subsequent darkening which has occurred in the layer of paint.

- 5 After pulling off the protective layer 32, the user then sticks that grey layer 28 which produces the best match with the weathered paint, optically speaking, onto the upper side of the repair material, as is indicated in the left-hand part of figure 3. After its protective layer 16
10 has been pulled off, the repair material, which is thus adapted to the specific requirements, is stuck onto the painted region to be restored.

- In practice, different restoring operations can be carried
15 out on car paintwork or other paintwork. Thus, it may be necessary, on the paintwork of a car, to make good a long scratch produced with a sharp object, or else merely a small spot-shaped site which has been brought about by rust or the impact of a stone. It is accordingly possible, as
20 illustrated in figure 4, to make available a repair kit which comprises small, round pieces of repair material 34, rectangular pieces of repair material 36 and long, strip-shaped pieces of repair material 38, the latter being rolled up in the kit to form small coils.

- 25 In yet another further development of the invention, it is possible to market kits of pieces of repair material which not only comprise pieces of material of different geometry but also cover a manufacturer's entire standard range of
30 colours for a certain type of motor car. This simplifies stock-keeping.

- It will be recognised that it is possible, in the manner described above, to repair defective sites in layers of
35 paint in a simple way, without there being the risk of impairing the region surrounding the site of the repair. A

gammagamma	gamma	gamma	gamma	gamma
delta	delta	delta	delta	delta
epsilon	epsilon	epsilon	epsilon	epsilon
zeta	zeta	zeta	zeta	zeta
eta	eta	eta	eta	eta
theta	theta	theta	theta	theta
iota	iota	iota	iota	iota
kappa	kappa	kappa	kappa	kappa
lambda	lambda	lambda	lambda	lambda
mu	mu	mu	mu	mu
nu	nu	nu	nu	nu
xi	xi	xi	xi	xi
omicron	omicron	omicron	omicron	omicron
pi	pi	pi	pi	pi
rho	rho	rho	rho	rho
sigma	sigma	sigma	sigma	sigma
tau	tau	tau	tau	tau
upsilon	upsilon	upsilon	upsilon	upsilon
phi	phi	phi	phi	phi
chi	chi	chi	chi	chi
psi	psi	psi	psi	psi
omega	omega	omega	omega	omega

Patent claims

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1. Repair material for a layer of paint, characterised in
5 that it has a deformable layer (12; 18) of paint
material, and also has adhesive (14; 26) for the, at
least temporary, attachment of the deformable layer
(12; 18) of paint material to the repair area.
- 10 2. Repair material according to claim 1, characterised in
that the layer (12) of paint material comprises a
paint film which has not been hardened.
- 15 3. Repair material according to claim 1 or 2,
characterised in that the layer (12) of paint material
is carried by a deformable base layer (10).
- 20 4. Repair material according to claim 1, characterised in
that the layer (18) of paint material has
microcapsules (20) containing paint (24).
- 25 5. Repair material according to claim 4, characterised in
that the wall material of the microcapsules (20) can
be evaporated or decomposed by the action of heat.
6. Repair material according to claim 4 or 5,
characterised in that the microcapsules (20) contain
particles of powder paint.
- 30 7. Repair material according to one of claims 1 to 6,
characterised in that the adhesive is formed by the
fact that the layer (18) of paint material changes, at
least partially, into the sticky condition when heated
up.

8. Repair material according to one of claims 1 to 7, characterised in that it is available in the form of at least one punched-out piece of material.
- 5 9. Repair material according to claim 8, characterised in that it is available in the form of a kit of punched-out pieces of material of different geometry.
- 10 10. Repair material according to one of claims 1 to 9, characterised in that it has a grey-coloured layer (28).
- 15 11. Repair material according to claim 10, characterised in that the grey layer (28) is a separate piece of material provided with a layer of adhesive (30) via which it can be attached to the layer (12; 18) of paint material.
- 20 12. Kit of pieces of repair material according to claim 11, characterised in that it comprises a plurality of grey layers (30) which have different grey value.
- 25 13. Kit of pieces of repair material according to one of claims 1 to 12, characterised in that it comprises a plurality of differently coloured pieces of repair material.

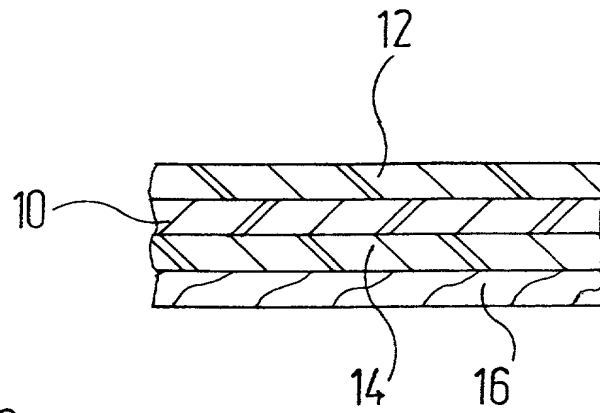


Fig. 1

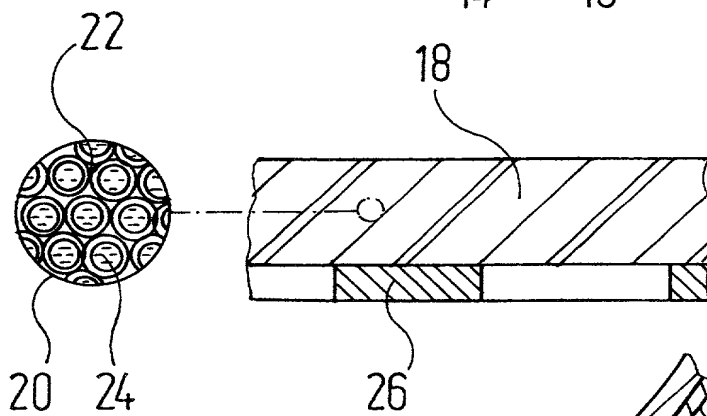


Fig. 2

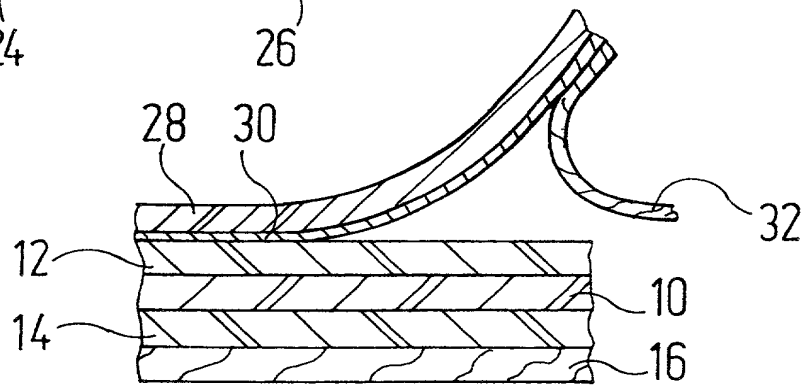


Fig. 3

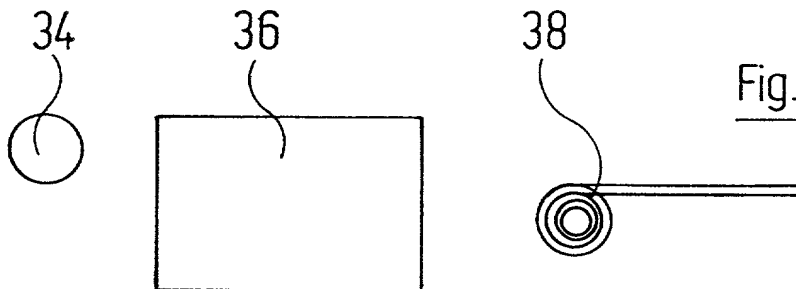


Fig. 4

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	First Named Inventor	Tebbe
	COMPLETE IF KNOWN	
	Application Number	09/856,452
	Filing Date	
	Group Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Repair Material For Damaged Painted Surfaces

the specification of which

(Title of the Invention)

☒ is attached hereto OR

☒ was filed on 23 Sept 1999 as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number PCT/EP99/07076 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (If applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
198 53 849 9 PCT/EP99/07076	DE PCT	11/23/1998 09/23/1999	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.


[Page 1 of 2]

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NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR:			<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor		
Given Name (first and middle [if any]) Gerold			Family Name or Surname Tebbe		
Inventor's Signature <i>Gerold Tebbe</i>			Date 06/12/07		
Residence: City Monte Carlo		State	Country MEX Monaco	Citizenship German	
Mailing Address 11, Av. Princesse Grace					
Mailing Address					
City Monte Carlo		State	ZIP MC-98000	Country Monaco	
NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR:			<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor		
Given Name (first and middle [if any])			Family Name or Surname		
Inventor's Signature			Date		
Residence: City		State	Country	Citizenship	
Mailing Address					
Mailing Address					
City		State	ZIP	Country	
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